

JULY 2026



From the DG....

Welcome to the 2026-2027 V6 Lions Year - I feel extremely humbled to be serving as District Governor for the coming year.

We are all well aware of the challenges that our district is facing and also the opportunities that exist within our communities that can allow our organisation to thrive. Let's turn those opportunities and bright ideas into reality.

Across Northern Victoria and Southern New South Wales, our communities may look different, but what connects us is a shared purpose; to serve, to support and to make a difference where it is needed most.

As we begin this new Lions Year, I'd like to share my theme that will hopefully guide us all.

Be Kind, Be Brave and Be the Change for Good.

Be Kind- to the people we serve, to each other and to ourselves. Kindness is often the smallest act with the biggest impact.

Be Brave- step into opportunities, even when they feel unfamiliar. Some of the most meaningful growth comes from saying "yes, I'll have a go" before you feel ready.

And Be the Change for Good- because what we do as Lions really matters; the time we give, the care we show and the effort we make, creates real and lasting impact in people's lives.

Look for opportunities to serve in this rapidly changing world. People's needs are more important than ever before and we need to innovate to keep pace and meet those needs.

Let me conclude with a quote:

"Let us not be discouraged by the magnitude of the task ahead. Together, we can bring about change."

Sarah Parker Remond (1826- 1894)

DG Alison Kazenwadel 2026-2027



Tungamah Lions & Leos

Leos - Our future leaders had a fantastic month with a Leo-ran party to choose the best local photos of our township taken by the Leo's. The pictures were taken for a new Leo project currently in the works behind the scenes so be ready for what the Leos have to come.

Lions - The month of June we had our annual changeover, moving on from our (now past) president Helen Williams to Victor Smith for the 2026/2027 year. May Victor have great success as our president. During our changeover we awarded 3 distinct awards to some of our hardest working Lions, star awards to Helen Williams and Michelle Wild, and a Chris August award to McKayla Peterson. Our club sincerely thanks these individuals for their dedication to the club over past and future years. Tungamah Lions would like to thank everyone who attended our annual changeover and encourage everyone to come to our 50th next year.

Beechworth Lions

Secretary received notification from Luke Fitridge (Indigo Shire Council Business Development Officer) advising that Indigo Shire Council will hold a Welcome Expo Showcase teaming up with Beechworth Health Service at Mayday showcasing groups and organisations. To be held on Friday 9th October from 4.30pm to 7.00pm. Were we interested in attending? Beechworth Lions Club asked Lion Secretary Iris to notify shire that we would like to participate.

Incoming Beechworth Lions Executive - The present executive has been appointed for a further year – 2026/2027 - President John Eldrid, Secretary Iris Mannik OAM, Treasurer Christine Luckman. It is hoped that we can increase our membership this coming year.

Lions Junior Public Speaking - As the Beechworth Lions Club has been advised that Sunday 12th July is the last day of the school holidays and many children will not be available. We have therefore decided to move it to the following Sunday 19th July same time 2pm - 3pm.

Benalla Lions

On Thursday 4th June the Club attended P12 College – Waller Street Campus for Junior Public Speaking and listened to 8 Students present their speeches. Again all the students spoke very well and were very inspiring. Thank you to Judges - Dan Brown, Phil Littler and Peter Poels. Timekeeper – Loch Lidgerwood and MC – Margaret Poels.

The Club attended St Joseph's Primary School and listened to 10 students present their speeches, again they all spoke very well and they had researched the topics very well. Thank you to Judges -President Peter Brown, Dan Brown and Phil Littler. MC – Peter Poels and Timekeeper – Margaret Poels.

On Monday 22nd June we again attend the Australian Christian College – Hume and listened to 16 students present their speeches, once again all students spoke very well and researched the topics very well. Thank you to Judges – President Peter Brown, Dan Brown and Peter Poels. Timekeeper – Margaret Poels, the School Coordinator introduced the students.

While listening to these amazing students from 4 schools present their speeches there are quite a few nice sounding holiday venues with plenty to see and do and also eat. We also learnt about some interesting people,who they would like to have dinner with.

The Benalla Lions Club held there 69th Changeover Dinner on Thursday 18th June at the Benalla Bowls Club where 41 people attended. The Changeover was conducted by PCC Phillip Johnson OAM. PCC Phillip also presented a 50year Membership Medallion to Treasurer Lester Watt. The Club presented Phillip and Anne with a basket of locally made chutneys, jams and spreads.

The photo shows PCC Phillip Johnson with the new Board President Peter Brown, Stephen Kelly, Anna Lynch, Bruce Walker, Graham Milner, David Lowing, Lester Watt and Loch Lidgerwood. Disbursements were also presented to local organisations. We would like to wish PCC Phillip Johnson OAM and Wife Anne, all the best and to have a great time at the International Convention in Hong Kong where he will be endorsed as the area 7 International Director.



Glenrowan Warby Ranges Lions

The Glenrowan Warby Ranges Lions Club held a busy and successful Winter Market on King's Birthday Monday, 8 June, at the Glenrowan Recreation Reserve. Running from 9 am to 1 pm, it was the first time the club had hosted a market at this venue.

The weather was perfect for a winter's day, and the crowd and traffic were larger than expected. More than 50 stallholders took part, including 13 new stallholders, filling 80 sites in total spread almost right around the outside of the Oval.

The Glenrowan CFA and the Warby Engine Club also supported the day by providing displays for visitors to enjoy.

The club would like to acknowledge the wonderful help received from Glenrowan residents. Jeff Robbins, who helped prepare the Recreation Reserve in the lead-up to the market, assisted with car parking on the day, and helped stallholders bump in on arrival. Gillian Althorp, who once again assisted with the club BBQ

The club BBQ was very well supported and sold out on the day. Special thanks go to Jo Howell, John Houghton and Jennifer Houghton from Wangaratta Lions for their much-appreciated assistance with the BBQ — they really saved our bacon!

As a small club of seven members, Glenrowan Warby Ranges Lions Club truly values the support it receives. Thank you to all of our club members for your work before, during and after the market.



Wodonga Lions



DG Paul and President Gerry with incoming assistant secretary Carina and assistant treasurer Sonia attending the recent Club Development Day held at Kiewa/Tangambalanga Lions Club.

Service Coordinator Report

As we approach the end of this Lions year, now is a perfect time for clubs to assess their service and activities reporting over the previous twelve months. Have you reported at least one activity in each and every month? Doing so creates the opportunity for our District to achieve the distinction of every club reporting, and so gain the elusive 100%.

Has your club reported every activity the members have undertaken? In order to receive the credit due to clubs and the district we must ensure nothing has been forgotten. The recording of our hours of service, along with the number of people served, can only be calculated by our district and Lions International if it is first entered in the Lions Portal. The same also applies to funds raised and funds donated.

As the Lions year finishes at the end of June, we are given until the end of July to complete all our reporting for this year. After that date we are unable to enter details from the 2025-26 Lions year.

If you have any questions about service reporting in the Lions portal, please feel free to contact me.

Lion Warwick - District 201V6 Service Coordinator
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Myrtleford Lions

The Myrtleford Lions Club's annual changeover dinner took place at the Myrtleford Hotel, last Friday 26 June, with over 30 in attendance to reflect on the group's efforts and accomplishments over the past year and to look forward to their upcoming deeds for the community.

The new board members for the next 12 months include Adrian Villella, who reprises his role as president and Chris Buono as secretary.

Marcus James was named as treasurer, George Peter continues as activities chairman, Jim Broz joined Alex Milligan as program chairmen, Paul Tanner was named as first vice-president and Maurice Zamperoni second vice-president.

The evening also marked a special occasion for one Lions member for over 20 years - Ben Browne was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award: the highest honor bestowed on a Lion which honors an individual who demonstrates exemplary humanitarian service and dedication to their community.

"Ben has been a Lion for 22 years," Mr Buono said.

"He joined on 1 July 2004, so his anniversary falls this week. "In that time there's barely a job

he hasn't put his hand to. "He's been instrumental in building the Myrtleford Golden Spurs Rodeo into what it is today; and whether it's Legacy Wood Day, planting trees, carpentry, electrical, air conditioning, or coming out for a simple working bee - if something needs doing, Ben does it.

"His father was a long-standing member of the club and it meant a great deal to have his family there on the night."

The Fellowship was awarded on the recommendation of fellow member Rick Rickard: a fitting tribute to one of the club's quiet achievers and a reminder of the service which keeps the Myrtleford Lions at the heart of the community.

Article from The Alpine Observer & Myrtleford Times - Photo Jennifer Zamperoni.





Henty Lions

The Lions Club of Henty held their 49th Changeover at the Central B&B. The changeover was officiated by Zone Chairman, Ken Scheuner and guests for the evening were past members Mick Broughan, a Past President and Charter Member and Uwe Stroh, also a past president, & his wife Carol. It was excellent to have these past members continue to show an interest in the club.

Outgoing President Lorri Roden gave a comprehensive report on many and varied activities of the club over the past 12 months. Incoming President Stephen Colley thanked Past President Lorri for her hard work and dedication to the club and outlined his plan for the coming year including; completing the refurbishment of the Lions BBQ shelter in Bicentennial Park, updating the Henty Phone Directory, Green Canopy tree planting, Lions Eye Health, donating to Lions Assistance Dogs and increasing membership.

The board members of the Lions Club of Henty for 2026/27 are: President - Stephen Colley, Vice President - Libby Smith-Draper, Secretary - Ken Dale & Treasurer - Julie Colley.

The Tail Twister made our Changeover a very productive and humorous night! Trivia questions and fellowship followed the meeting!



Junior Public Speaking



The other Regional Final dates are as follows:-

Region 2 - still waiting to hear

Region 3 Sunday August 16 Finley at 1pm

Region 4- Sunday August 16 Benalla at 1pm

Region 5- Sunday August 9 Thurgoona Golf Club at 12.30pm

Our District Final is to be held at Yarrawonga Clubrooms on Sunday August 30 at 1pm

Lavington Lions

The Lions Club of Lavington Mirambeena Community Dance purchased \$500 worth of new socks and gloves for donation to Carevan for distribution as part of Carevan's food distribution network. The socks are in packs of three pairs so the recipient can wear one pair, wash one pair and have a clean pair.

In addition, this group donated a further \$1000 and our Lavington Lions Club a further \$4500... both donations for food distribution. Total Club donation was \$6000.

Our Club provided support to the Albury North Primary School for winning the local Boccia tournament last year to represent the region in the NSW State Final in Sydney. This year's winner is Springdale Heights Public School and our Club Board approved the same level of support. The team of special needs children are photographed with their coach and President Susie. The excited team members were a credit to their school.

Our Changeover Dinner on the 24th of June and the new Board is looking forward to another year of successful service projects and the opportunity to enjoy all that being a Lion means.





Corowa Lions & Corowa Distillery

Transcription from bottle "Our resident gardener Herman can be found pottering around at the Distillery on most days. Aside from growing some delicious fruit + veg for our menu, and brightening up our days with his wicked sense of humour, it's his charity work that we want to recognise him for. With the Corowa Lions Club he recycles the communities cans and stubbies raising funds for cancer charities. Cheers for everything you do."

Get your own bottle of Herman's brew here -
<https://corowadistilling.com.au/product/imprint-1-herman-fransen/>

Cobram Lions

Cobram Lions have not been idle again this month. At our last market we gave a \$500 donation To a local student Emma Corrin who is competing in 2026 ICF Canoe Marathon World Championships in Argentina, Emma and her family had a display at the last market with a rowing machine for any one to try, and of course the Cobram Lions members got involved in the activities between working at the BBQ Van. Have to have some fun amongst all the work.

The Club level of Junior Public Speaking was held on June 19th. Wow what a great group of students that took part this year. They were all fantastic, and every student was a winner just by participating. , we were all grateful we were not part of the judging team. Congratulations to the overall winners on the night. Grade 3/4 winner was Aidan Macheda and grade 5/6 winner was Sophia Nicosia.





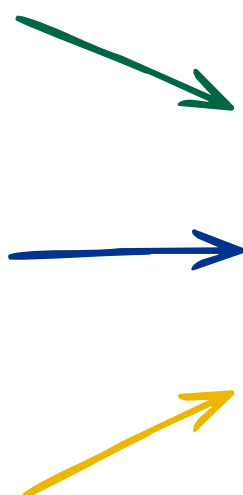
On Tuesday 23rd the Cobram Lions held their Change over dinner, We had a delicious meal at the Boosey Creek Tavern, a wonderful night with a few laughs and good company. We welcome the new board for 2026/2027 and wish the new President Lion Keith Parry and his team a successful year. The total distributions listed on the night were in excess of 40,000.00, the highlights were \$13400 from the Melbourne Cup Visit, this is invested ready to help with Dialysis Services in Cobram. Plus an overall total of \$21,200.00 being distributed to the people affected by the Yarroweyah/ Muckatah fires. Our membership started at 16 and despite some ins and outs we finished with 16, this year has had some challenges, but despite the setbacks and disappointments, we have remained positive and kept going forward to achieve so much over these past 12 months. Proving that working together as a team a small group can achieve so much.

We congratulate Olga on being presented with the John Artavilla Memorial President's award for 2026.

Next market is July 25th, Can this please be advertised? Any Lions heading to the cabinet change over might like to call in, we might need a hand or 2

Introducing our newest addition...

**The V6
Foundation
Logo**





Registrations for Lap The Map 2026 will be open mid-late July.

Lions Assistance Dogs is excited to announce that preparations are well underway for Lap The Map 2026, our national fundraising initiative that brings Lions Clubs, individuals and supporters together from across Australia to make a meaningful difference for those living with diabetes. Registrations will be launching later in July, with the month long event still happening in November. We encourage supporters to keep an eye on our socials and website for registration details, fundraising resources and ways to get involved. This year, our collective goal is to raise \$50,000 to fund the training, delivery and placement of a Diabetic Alert Dog for an Australian living with type 1 diabetes. Achieving this goal will only be possible through the commitment of Lions Clubs and supporters nationwide.

As a special thank you, Lions Clubs participating in Lap The Map 2026 will receive exclusive banner patches to proudly display within their clubs. You can also earn tiered badges recognising both kilometres travelled and funds raised throughout the campaign.

Among our inspiring participants is Lion Sheryl, who will once again be taking on the Heysen Trail. After raising more than \$2,000 during last year's campaign, Sheryl is preparing to tackle the trek again in support of Lions Assistance Dogs and the life-changing impact our Assistance Dogs have on Australians in need. We encourage you if you can, to support her remarkable effort.

We are also pleased to share that preparations are progressing for the redevelopment of the Lions Assistance Dogs National Training Centre. As of early July, our team has temporarily relocated to an off-site location in Hahndorf, SA, to ensure we can continue delivering our programs and services without interruption. This exciting project represents a significant investment in the future of Lions Assistance Dogs and will help us expand our capacity to support more Australians in need.

For updates on Lap The Map 2026, redevelopment progress, and other Lions Assistance Dogs news, visit our website or contact us at development@lionsassistedogs.com.au.

Wangaratta Lions

A day out was had by the Lions Club of Wangaratta for our Presidents Social with a round of FootGolf at Boorhaman Golf Club followed by lunch at the Boorhaman Hotel.

Members of Lions Club of Wangaratta assisted the Glenrowan Warby Ranges Lions Club with the Glenrowan Community Winter Market BBQ. A busy day out with a lot of people around for the long weekend markets.

The June Business Breakfast with 102.1 Edge FM saw the Wangaratta Lions Club at Tailgate Campers



Lions Club of Wangaratta members rolled up their sleeves and got stuck into some serious wood splitting with a few piles of cut wood an impressive output!



Members of Wangaratta Lions club joined with Glenrowan Warby Ranges Lions Club on a club visit to Moyhu Lions Club. It was fantastic to come together with fellow Lions from the three local clubs, sharing the fellowship that makes our local clubs and communities so strong.



Wangaratta Lions

A fantastic evening of fellowship, celebration, and reflection as the Lions Club of Wangaratta gathered last night for our Changeover Dinner.

It was wonderful to share the night with fellow Lions, partners, friends, and guests as we celebrated the achievements of the 2025–2026 year and officially welcomed in our new Board for 2026–2027.

A presentation of the District Chris August Award was also awarded to incoming President Jo Howell during the evening.



Whats Hot on Social Media....

Could you write the song that becomes the soundtrack of Leos Australia?

Win \$1,000 and have your song become the official Leos Australia song, featured at national conventions, Leo events, social media, and promotional campaigns across the country.



At our most recent meeting, we were pleased to welcome visitors Jess Barton and her mother, Leila Barton.

Following a recent discussion between Roger and Jess regarding her fundraising efforts for the Stroke Foundation, and in light of a Club member recently suffering a stroke, Jess was invited to attend the meeting to share her fundraising journey and to receive a donation from the Club.

Jess explained that her father suffered a stroke in 2020, an event that had a profound impact on her family and inspired her ongoing commitment to supporting the Stroke Foundation. As part of this year's fundraising campaign, Jess will be participating in both a half marathon and a full marathon on the Gold Coast over the weekend of 4 July (a total distance of 63kms) and is seeking sponsorship for these events.



Zone Chairman Norm Walkington had the honour of presenting Leitchville Lions Club President Peter White with a Chris August Award.

Whats Hot on Social Media....

Great to see the opening of the Quambatook Weir pool today after more than a decade of community lead work to see an idea become reality. Definitely worth acknowledging the vision of Ken Espagne and his commitment to see the project happen.

As our local Lions Club President, Chelle said during the opening...our little town of Quamby often bats well above its weight in seeing things happen to bring the town together. This is one worth celebrating.



Something to think about...

If you could redesign the “traditional Lions meeting” from scratch for 2026, what would it look like?

Lions International Convention - Australian Crew...

Photo's courtesy of Lions 201V5 & Lions International Facebook pages



Helpful Links

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(@lionsdistrictv6)

